

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 031644Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7700

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 3740

EXDIS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (HENRY A. KISSINGER), CA

SUBJ: SECSTATE'S VISIT TO OTTAWA OCT 14-15

THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF SUGGESTED TOAST FOR DELIVERY AT
MACEACHEN DINNER OCTOBER 14:

BEGIN TEXT: - MR. MINISTER, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:
TRAVELLING TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES IS, OF COURSE, NO NOVELTY
TO ME--INDEED, THE RARITY OF MY PRESENCE IN WASHINGTON
IS A SOURCE OF EITHER GREAT FURSTRATION OR GREAT RELIEF,
I'M NOT SURE WHICH, TO MY COLLEAGUES IN THE STATE DEPART-
MENT--BUT VISITING CANADA IS A RATHER DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE
FOR ME (I WAS GOING TO SAY "SPECIAL" BUT MY ADVISERS TELL
ME THAT AMERICAN OFFICIALS ARE PRUDENT TO AVOID USE OF THE
ADJECTIVE "SPECIAL" IN RELATION TO CANADA). CANADA DOES NOT
DISPLAY THOSE ELEMENTS OF IMPENDING, ACTUAL OR JUST COM-
PLETED AGONY TO WHICH I HAVE BECOME ALL TOO ACCUSTOMED
IN MY FOREIGN TRAVELS. HOW UNUSUAL AND REFRESHING TO BE
IN A COUNTRY WHICH IS MORE THAN SELF-SUFFICIENT IN FOOD
PRODUCTION AND DOES NOT REQUIRE U.S. FOOD AID. INDEED, CANADA
IS APPARENTLY DESTINED TO HAVE AN ANNUAL EXPORTABLE FOOD
SURPLUS. AND AS FOR THE MATTER OF U.S. FOOD AID, I'M TOLD,
FOR INSTANCE, THAT IF DURING MY STAY HERE I BLUNDER AND
END UP WITH EGG ON MY FACE, IT'S MOST UNLIKELY TO BE
AMERICAN EGG. HOW UNUSUAL TO BE IN A DEVELOPED

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NATO COUNTRY WHICH IS NOT ONLY NOT MISTRUSTED

BY THE THIRD WORLD BUT IS EVEN SOUGHT AFTER BY RIVALS
ON BOTH SIDES OF NUMEROUS WORLD CONFLICTS TO
KEEP THE PEACE BETWEEN THEM. HOW UNUSUAL TO BE IN A
COUNTRY WHICH IS NOT BEING DENOUNCED BY ITS NEIGHBOR FOR ARMING
ITSELF TO SUCH AN EXTENT AS TO THREATEN ITS NEIGHBOR'S
SECURITY AND UPSET THE MILITARY BALANCE IN THE REGION.
INDEED, AS YOU HAVE ALL RECENTLY HEARD FROM MY DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT COLLEAGUE, CANADA'S NEIGHBOR HAS A RATHER
DIFFERENT COMPLAINT.

IN SURROUNDINGS SO DIFFERENT FROM MY RECENT EXPERIENCE, I
SHOULD INDEED FEEL STRANGE. BUT CURIOUSLY I DON'T.
UNDOUBTEDLY, A COMBINATION OF FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO MAKE ME
FEEL COMFORTABLE AND AT HOME HERE: THE WARMTH OF THE WELCOME
AND THE GENEROSITY OF THE HOSPITALITY TO WHICH MY WIFE
AND MY COLLEAGUES AND I HAVE BEEN TREATED; THE FACT
THAT WE HAVE AS HOST A MAN SO ACCOMMODATING THAT HE EVEN
CALLS HIMSELF SECRETARY OF STATE, A COURTESY EXTENDED
TO ME BY VIRTUALLY NONE OF MY OTHER FOREIGN
MINISTERIAL COUNTERPARTS; THE FACT THAT HERE IN OTTAWA WE CAN
TURN ON A TELEVISION SET AND GET PROGRAMS WE ARE USED TO IN
WASHINGTON, AND EVEN, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING,
WITH THE SAME COMMERCIALS THAT PAY FOR THOSE PROGRAMS.

IT HAS, INCIDENTALLY, BEEN REPRESENTED TO ME THAT THERE
ARE THOSE IN CANADA WHO ARE CONVINCED THAT MY FAILURE TO
MAKE THIS VISIT EARLIER WAS DUE TO THE FACT THAT I,
LIKE MOST AMERICANS, TAKE CANADA FOR GRANTED. THAT EM-
PHATICALLY WAS NOT THE REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT OF
THIS VISIT. HOWEVER, TO THE CHARGE OF TAKING CANADA
FOR GRANTED I HERE AND NOW PLEAD GUILTY ON MY OWN BEHALF
AND THAT OF MY FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN.

I, LIKE MOST AMERICANS, TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT CANADA
AND CANADIANS WILL CONTINUE TO SHARE THE IDEALS WE
FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE TO PRESERVE THROUGH TWO WORLD
WARS AND NOT A FEW OTHER CONFLICTS BOTH MILITARY AND
VERBAL; WE AMERICANS TAKE IT INCREASINGLY FOR GRANTED
THAT ISSUES THAT ARISE BETWEEN US AND CANADA WILL LEAD
TO CONSULTATION AND RESOLUTION, NOT CONFRONTATION AND
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RECRIMINATION; WE AMERICANS TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT
WHEN WE DEAL WITH CANADIANS ON BILATERAL AND MULTI-
LATERAL ISSUES WE WILL ENCOUNTER NOT RIGIDITY AND
INFLEXIBILITY BUT REASONABLENESS AND RATIONALITY, AN
EXPECTATION WHICH WE HOPE CANADIANS SHARE IN APPROACHING
DEALINGS WITH US; WE AMERICANS TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT AS
CANADA SEEKS INCREASINGLY TO DIVERSIFY ITS CONTACTS
IN THE WORLD, IT WILL DO SO NOT ONLY WITHOUT DETRIMENT

TO U.S. INTERESTS BUT, INDEED, IN A MANNER WHICH WILL
ENHANCE THE INFLUENCE OF WORLD AFFAIRS OF THOSE IDEALS
WE SHARE; WE AMERICANS, FINALLY, TAKE IT FOR GRANTED
THAT CANADIANS DO NOT HOLD AGAINST US THE FACT THAT
200 YEARS AGO WE SEPARATED OURSELVES FROM THE SOVEREIGN
WE THEN SHARED WITH CANADA, A SEPARATION WHICH, INDEED,
IS NOT HELD AGAINST US BY THE VERY SOVEREIGN'S SUCCESSOR,
WHOSE HEALTH AND LONG LIFE I NOW ASK YOU ALL TO DRINK TO:
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN. END TEXT.
JOHNSON

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